

# Oakhill Echoes

September 2011

## SNAP!

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*Matric Dance 2011 - Wesley Robinson (2010 Matriculant) and Kate Gardy, Jo-Li Kotze and Christian Anderson attend the cocktail function at Oakhill School*

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## "Music in the Blue" reaches out - Barbie Leibbrandt • Linda Lifson

On Tuesday afternoon, 16th August, the Oakhill School hall was filled with friends from Vermont, Loeriehof, Epilepsy S.A., Hospice, Leisure Gardens, Garden Gates and Belvidere Park who had been invited to come and enjoy some musical joy.

And what a joy it was! Our talented College students provided them with some first class entertainment and there was no doubt that the audience were thoroughly absorbed by the melodies and wonderful memories that some of the songs provoked.

At interval the Oakhill student hostesses served our visitors with tea and delicious snacks, attending to them graciously and happy to have this opportunity to get involved in such a wonderful outreach

programme.

When asked about the concert, both Kath Savin and Elize Terblans, from Garden Gates, commented that they attend every year and just love it! Johanna Zondagh, who has worked at the Vermont Home for many years, shared that it was a pleasure to be at Oakhill and that they were enjoying the lovely music.

Una Keyser from Epilepsy SA, whilst enjoying her tea and snacks, had the following to say: "They sing so beautifully. Thank you for inviting me."

We look forward to seeing our friends again at next year's performance. They will be back!

*This Oakhill Echoes edition is a visual feast which truly echoes the magnificent aura and energy that abounds on and off our campus!*

**SNAP!**



*“Music in the Blue” entertains our community*

**Jubilee Pancake Day**

- Sheila Pasio

“Ma’am I forgot to make the pancake batter!”



*Jenna-May Kaschula and Claudia Robbertse enjoying tasty delights*

“No way, James, I cannot believe you. You’re teasing me.”

“How do you know, Ma’am,” a small smile.

“Because I know you would never let me down. I trust you completely!”

Isn’t it wonderful when you just know that

something will come together at Oakhill? No sooner had the first bell rung than the quad was a buzz of making and selling pancakes. The aroma of hot batter and cinnamon filled the air and Jubilee students learned to make their first pancakes. Mr Botha, Mrs Lifson and Mr Langman were in the thick of it, encouraging their Mentor Groups to action. This small challenge turned into a wonderfully successful endeavour.



*Josh Pama and Dawie Botha hard at work*

We ended the day entirely satisfied that we could send off R900 – an amount that will feed 90 children in Somalia!

*Good manners will open doors that the best education cannot.*

- Clarence Thomas

### Singles Tennis Tournament

- Stefan Weyers

Oakhill hosted a tennis singles tournament during August. Boys from Knysna Primary, Plett Primary, Glenwood House and Oakhill fought it out for the Deborah Hyde Trophy.

Congratulations to Joshua Kleu from Glenwood who won the inaugural Oakhill Singles Tennis Tournament.



#### 5 INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT TENNIS

- Yellow tennis balls were used at Wimbledon for the first time in 1986.
- The fastest server in the women's tennis was done by Venus Williams who recorded a serve of 205 km/h.
- Henry "Bunny" Austin was the first player to wear shorts at Wimbledon in 1932.
- Every year, 24 tons of Kent strawberries are ordered for the Championships at Wimbledon.
- The first women to play in the Wimbledon tournament wore full length dresses.

### SNAP!



*From what we get, we can  
make a living;  
What we give, however,  
makes a life.*

- Arthur Ashe

Oakhill visits Rondevlei for an exhilarating drumming workshop

## A Special Journey

- Shirley and Amy Redman

*Shirley Redman and her daughter Amy, a Grade 3 pupil at Oakhill, embarked on their Camino journey on 2nd May 2011. They walked for 6 weeks, covering anything between 20 and 30 kilometers a day. They returned home on 15th June 2011, after what proved to be a beautiful and amazing experience.*

A brief description of the Camino:



Following the discovery of the tomb of the Apostle James in Santiago de Compostela in the 9th century, the Pilgrims' Route to Santiago became Medieval Europe's principal pilgrimage trail. Countless numbers of pilgrims were moved by their faith to make the journey to Compostela from all over Europe, acting as the driving force for an artistic, social and economic evolution that has left its mark along the length of the Route.



*We made daisy chains in the park and played frisbee with a group of Australians*

Yet the Pilgrims' Route is much more than a vast archaeological site dependent on its past splendour. It is a living route that is renewed by the pilgrims, travellers and tourists of the 21st century that have the opportunity to discover at first hand an experience that forms part of the common heritage of all the peoples of Europe.



*Washing by hand was done every day*

Following the Route to Santiago in the traditional way as a pilgrim, traveller or tourist, is not simply a case of taking a tour along an artistic trail in contact with nature. It is much more than this. It is an opportunity to learn about the religious and historic roots of Europe, a change to embark on an inner journey of discovery and transformation, moving in time with the rhythms and pace of centuries gone by. In short, it is an opportunity to become part of a pilgrimage.



*Grape vines and fields along the Maseta section*

It could be said that the Pilgrims' Route to Santiago is a symbol. It is a route that represents faith, a route imbued with art and culture, an ecological and essentially human route, an encounter with the key issues in life, a search for the self, a pilgrimage to the mystery of death and rebirth.

It is a physical and spiritual adventure.



*An albergue with over 300 beds in Pointemarin*



*My "Compestela", proof that I have walked the Camino*

Pimp my Creche

- Nicola Giliomee

On Friday, 2nd September, after school, a group of Oakhill students in Bendigo House loaded a bus with books, blankets, food, paint and tools.



On Saturday morning we painted murals on the walls in bright colours and posted up the childrens' beautiful art.

We had committed to working on and improving the Eyethu Creche by painting the walls white so that murals could be painted on them to brighten their learning space.

We also had a civvies day to raise funds for the Eyethu Creche and with monies raised we bought them a new microwave oven, 2 new heaters and some electricity. Everyone that participated had a great time, feeling content about helping the community.

A book corner was created with a new book shelf, a carpet, many teddy bears and hundreds of new books. The boys cut the grass and fixed the broken door handles and shelves.

A special thank you to all the Bendigo students who contributed books, money, paint, food and household items and a big thank you to Bendigo House Mentor Lee Raynor, for organising the project.



SNAP!



Grade 9 students cooking up a storm at the SRC Food Evening Put it in the cooking pot and let it simmer – engaging at all levels and enjoying International Literacy Day

## Peter Bishop Invitational Hockey Tournament

- Stefan Weyers

Oakhill Prep hosted its annual Peter Bishop Invitational Hockey Tournament on Saturday 10th September on the York Astro in George.

This is the only Primary School full field astro tournament in our area and it provides the perfect canvas for SWD Primary school teams to show their skills.

The girls section was dominated by Oakhill, with only a gutsy George South team not going down to this amazing group of girls.

Oakhill girls retained the title they won last year. The Oakhill Boys, as was the case last year, came up against a determined Glenwood team in the final, and saw history repeating itself, as Glenwood, for the second time won the boys' section.



## SNAP!



Hosted by Oakhill and Montessori School, seventeen teams took place including Glenwood, Montessori and Oakhill. Various disciplines were carried out and the winners were the teams with the most points in the quickest time.

Oakhill teams won both the senior (Nick Cuthbert, Harry Maarsingh, Brandon Wilcocks and Nicola Giliomee) and junior (Jason Campbell, Ben Giliomee and Anola Walk) categories and also had a second junior team place third (Amy Williams, Josh Nel and Kevin Redman) in the junior category.

The open category was won by the Glenwood teachers team.

The Adventure Racing event was organised by Kyle Langman, Riaan van Straten with the help of Steve Williams from Montessori.

Prep Spring Walk

- Cassidy Hartslief

On Friday 26th August we were due to go on our Spring Walk but it was postponed due to bad weather. The following Friday finally arrived and the weather was perfect for our walk.

Our grade was the 3rd group to arrive at the beach. The walk was so much fun and we were so lucky to see whales and dolphins having a good time in the nice cool water. It took us about 2 hours to walk the length of the beach which was great because we missed a lot of schoolwork.

As we all arrived at the end of the beach we washed our feet and

walked up the stairs where there was a nice man waiting to give us each an ice-lolly. The view was amazing from the top of the hill, with the waves crashing and the water looking so clear. We walked up to the restaurant with our freezing ice-lollies in our hands.

The class moms were kindly waiting to meet us at the restaurant with cakes, hotdogs and cupcakes. After we received our yummy food, we relaxed on the grass. It was unfortunate that we had to leave and go back to school but that was definitely a fun-filled day to remember.



Reporter Cassidy Hartslief



SNAP!



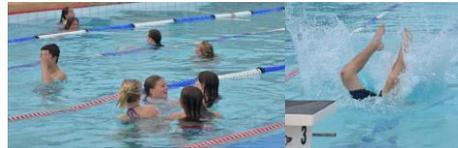
*The Oakhill SRC hosted a Coke Race last Friday. The front circle buzzed with bubbles and laughter at first break, during the preliminary rounds and rocked with applause as the two finalists gathered at second break to decide the winner. It was mightily close but Godwin Thobi took it from Niklas Martin by a split second and a gulp! Three cheers to all who supported and participated.*



### Polar Bear Hockey Challenge

- Stefan Weyers

At the end of every hockey season Oakhill hosts the Polar Bear Hockey Challenge for all Grade 7's in our area.



For many, this is their last hockey match as primary school players. The main emphasis is on fun, with no scores to count. Doughnuts and boerie rolls are served and the day ends with a swim in the Oakhill pool, hence the tournament name!

The Challenge is all about offering Grade 7's an opportunity to interact with their peers (some of whom they have played hockey against since the age of 7) one last time before they all disperse into the various high schools in our area.

### Egyptian Feast

- Debbie Nicoll

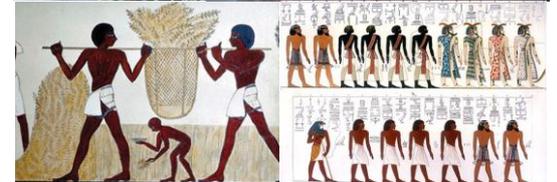
We had a wonderful, fun-filled day. Arriving as pharaohs, commoners, gods, scribes, slaves and even a tomb robber, the grade three class celebrated the end of the integrated theme of Egypt in fine style!



Cleopatra visited and had clearly moved through into the "after life" answering some of our thought provoking and interesting questions. After finding out about Cleopatra's life we honoured her by hosting a feast, dancing and interacting with other Egyptians.



Thank you to all our creative mums and dads, to Cleopatra and to all our enthusiastic Egyptians.



*Manners are a sensitive awareness of the feelings of others. If you have that awareness, you have good manners, no matter what fork you use.*

- Emily Post

- Royal Slave, Mrs Nicoll

### SNAP!



Oakhill Prep host a highly successful Light Blue musical performance

**SNAP!**

**Matric Dance 2011**



*Richard & Stella Sohn, Mitchell Sohn and partner, Maria Michalopoulos and partner, Monicca Masetloa and partner*



*Maren Seydack & Tim Terblanche, Jessica Kilian and partner, Jenavicka van der Merwe and partner, Sarah Henderson and partner*



*Carly Seager and partner, Kirsten Duthie, Kathleen Stein and Jonathan Edwards, Harry Maarsingh and partner*



*Franziska Broesicke and Jason Sherwood, Nicolette Roses-Agoro and partner, Camilla Grobelaar and partner*

## Oakhill Girls 1<sup>st</sup> Team - Hockey

- Emma Horn

Oakhill's First Girls' hockey has been remarkable and ever-improving. Neither coaches, nor players can really comprehend how much our team has improved, even now with our 7 Matric players writing prelims and out of action and introducing five amazing U16's. We managed to come off the astro on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September with a 4-0 victory against the Ladies NMMU side (topping our last victory against them by two goals).

Last year's season was undoubtedly the best season Oakhill Girls' First Team has ever had, but this year's season was the cherry on top. Our team excitedly ventured to Cape Town to play the Chris Brother's Tournament – a fresh, thrilling experience and an internationally prestigious event – losing all but two matches (which we classify as substantial experience), one of which we drew with Belville (but through the emotional course of some superb P-flicks, lost 2-3). The other we won against Westerford 1-0 (Australian, Dutch, English and the rest of the teams being upper-class, tough competition). We enjoyed ourselves nonetheless and added it to our mounting hockey experience.

Besides this challenging affair we have exceeded expectations by earning victories against Knysna High School (4-0) in a warm up match and a serious match (3-0), Glenwood once (1-0) and again (2-0), and our other Garden Route competitor, Principia (4-1). In the Cape Town region we beat Camps Bay (3-0), Fairmont (2-0) and Bridge House (1-0) – all decent and challenging, but lost in an unyielding match against Warmbad (0-1) and the George Women (0-4).



One strange thing about our team is that our first half we play 110% and dominate, then in the second half we become soft and keep it at the stale-mate. A brilliant example of this is our last game against York (our toughest, most serious home competitor, who we seem to have a trend of losing 4-0 to), where we scored the first goal, getting them a bit worried, I rightfully suspect. After half-time they came at us with fire, determination, and some panic, and managed to score a goal. We battled and struggled and played our hearts out to keep the score there. In the last 10 seconds they entered our D on our right (their weak side) and back-sticked the ball into the top-right corner at the most outrageous angle – *no one* expected that!

It was a sensational, unbelievable moment. An emotional rollercoaster but rewarding nonetheless, our best score yet against York, 1-2.

Next season holds many more possibilities of reaching greater levels of improvement and entertainment. Thank you to everyone on the team and a special thanks to Mr Raynor, without whom we would not have reached such great heights.



Reporter Emma Horn



### Having a whale of a time

- Debbie Nicoll

Even though there was not a whale to be seen, we had a “whale of a time”!

After our early morning launch the Grade 3’s had an exhilarating boat trip out to Robberg to observe the seal colony. We were sad that we did not have the opportunity to see whales and dolphins but thoroughly enjoyed our time on the beach. Sand sculpture competitions, soccer and ice-creams kept us busy.

Thank you to Mr Bantom and Mr Potgieter for joining us and a big thank you to Ocean Safari for allowing us this wonderful opportunity.



### SNAP!



The College SRC hosted their Fashion Show with beautiful clothing and great music



Saturday morning matric tuition with Mr Meintjes

Soccer tournament with Rondevlei sporting new soccer uniforms

SNAP!



Oakhill bids farewell to staff member Rose Solomon



**WE SALUTE YOU DEAR ROSIE SOLOMON**

Where did it start, we have no clue,  
But guess where she came from  
....HAZEYVIEW.  
She's a Jack of all Trades and Master of All,  
She would bend over backwards at every call.

How does she look, well that's hard to describe,  
But ask Christa Benson if she'd take a ride ....  
In Rosie's "tomato", look out, here she comes,  
From Sedgies to Knysna, in time for that Bell!

Rosie's a Legend for all sorts of reasons,  
She's been around Oakhill for many a season,  
Answering phones and making us laugh,  
Mending knees and taking teachers to task.

Popping a pill, sipping it up,  
Whatever she did, it was more than enough,  
Plastering a finger that was grazed and sore,  
Rosie was there, with her love and more.

Step out of line and she'd make you stew,  
Notch it up a fraction and those eyes so blue ....  
Would make you notice and make you smile,  
Rosie's Love stretched beyond that extra mile.

So Rosie Solomon, our Nurse and Friend,  
We thank you for being our hero and Master Legend

Someone with wit, someone with style  
Someone who just is, a Smile upon a Smile.

WE LOVE YOU ROSIE SOLOMON

Barbie  
September 2011



**Courteous Greetings**

- Barbie Leibbrandt

What of marketing a fine school?

"When I'm walking the Oakhill walk and talking the Oakhill talk (always from my heart) with prospective families, there is nothing better than a friendly, courteous greeting, a step by the wayside for a sincere, meaningful engagement with a spirited Sport master, a passionate Art student, a dedicated Afrikaans teacher, a knowledgeable IT specialist, hearing beautiful happy sounds emanating from a Music department. There is definitely no need to bow or courtesy, but there is a need to

share it our way, the Oakhill way .... creatively, individually, sincerely, politely, humbly and respectfully. The goodnesses of life for me are about supreme values and grand respect, whether you are an adult or a minor.

Let's tread our beautiful campus respectfully, treating one another as we would wish to be treated in return.

Always with love and care and being "Proudly Oakhill."



**SNAP!**

**Matric Dance 2011**



*Shannon Simleit and partner, Jeremy Hemmes and partner, Luke Wilkinson and partner, Maricia Schempers and partner*



*Jurgen Graupe and partner, Cleona Cloete and partner, Inge van Staden and partner*



*Akohna Vasi and partner, Tanna Scott and Alexander Boomer (2010 Matriculant), Carmen Cronje and partner, Zee Madolo and partner*



**SNAP!**



*Little Oaks enjoy a fun-filled morning hosting their Teddy Bears Picnic*



THE JOY OF LEARNING

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*An early starter?*



*George Potgieter  
and Dawie  
Botha, our Mad  
Hatters!*

**Happy Holidays!**  
School reopens on  
12<sup>th</sup> October 2011

*Thanks to all our contributors for photographs,  
news and snippets.*